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One Million Defy The Draft



Recent anti-draft demonstration in San Francisco.

(Boston, Mass.) - When America's 19- and 20-year-old men were ordered to register for the draft in July, the Selective Service predicted that only two per cent of them would not sign up.

A **Boston Globe** sample of postal districts across the nation, however, suggests that the registration order was in fact defied or ignored by approximately 25 per cent.

One million of the 4,076,000 civilian American males born in 1960 and 1961 appear to be in violation of the draft sign-up law, which was requested by President Carter in his State of the Union address last January and enacted by Congress in June after bitter debate.

The draft registration program appears to be, if not a failure, at least in serious trouble.

Each of the million or so non-registrants is technically liable for a penalty of up to five years in prison and a fine of $10,000. The penalties were highly publicized during the two-week registration period.

Realistically, however, the nation's federal courts could only cope with a tiny fraction of these cases. By comparison, the government conducts about 40,000 prosecutions for all federal crimes combined.

The Selective Service system has not released registration figures. Figures are already available, however, from many post office districts. Some postal officials say they have been told by the Selective Service not to release the numbers.

Nevertheless, the **Boston Globe** was able to obtain the registration figures from large postal districts that cover more than 10 per cent of the nation's population. By matching these figures with census estimates of 19- and 20-year-old civilian men in each district, it appears that the registration program suffered major shortfalls nearly everywhere.

Prior to the beginning of the compulsory draft sign-up of 19- and 20-year-old men, draft officials had predicted a 98 per cent compliance rate. In a post-registration news conference, the national office of the Committee Against Registration and the Draft (CARD) said anti-draft groups had compiled registration statistics showing "20 per cent nonregistration in various parts of the country."

CARD acknowledged it was not possible to prove with exactness the extent of nonregistration, but provided as rigorous as possible a statistical analysis of noncompliance in five major U.S. cities, **the Guardian** reports.

National CARD discovered nonregistration rates ranging from 20 per cent to 44 per cent in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Phoenix and Seattle. In Phoenix the noncompliance rate was 20 per cent while nonregistration was about 31 per cent in Seattle and 32 per cent in Chicago. In Boston 40 per cent of registration-age men failed to sign up and in Atlanta 44 per cent were similarly noncompliant.

Duane Shank, director of National CARD, explained that because only estimates of the total number of eligible registrants can be made, in the absence of final 1980 U.S. Census tallies, no one knows for certain how many 19- and 20-year-old men live in each metropolitan area.

Add to that uncertainty the fact that only the Selective Service System has overall registration statistics, the best that the anti-draft movement can do, Shank said, is to make city-by-city projections from what concrete statistics exist concerning 19- and 20-year-old population and registration compliance figures.

In addition to National CARD's statistical analysis of draft-registration refusal, reports from across the country from anti-draft groups are cited as a barometer pointing to pervasive opposition to the draft. Anti-draft activists reported that at many post offices young men went home without registering after discussing the conscription sign-up with activists. At post offices where activists had "I am registering under protest" stickers, activists said many young men were eager to demonstrate their opposition to the draft by attaching the stickers to registration forms.

Organizations which counsel conscientious objection, such as the American Friends Service Committee, the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, and the National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors, reported that since Carter called for draft registration in his State of the Union message last January, they have never had as many inquiries about conscientious objector status.

Anti-draft groups in scores of cities leafleted for the full 2-week registration period at many of the nation's 34,000 post offices where the conscription sign-up took place.

Large anti-draft rallies and pickets were held at main post offices in scores of cities across the country at the start of the sign-up period, ranging in size up to 5,000. Anti-draft activities also took place in small cities and suburban locations. Not only were experienced anti-draft activists involved, but so too were the parents of draft-age men and women and others with no previous

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People's Perspective

Officials Ignore Infant Mortality Report

(Oakland, Calif) - The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has referred to county staff a critical report on its mishandling of the infant mortality problem. The report, prepared following a 10-month study by the community-based Coalition to Fight Infant Mortality, found that the 26 infants who die out of every 1,000 babies born each year to minority and poor women in East Oakland are the victims of racism, sexism and bureaucratic bungling. With the exception of John George, the only Black member of the board of supervisors, the board maintained it cannot provide adequate pre-natal and post-natal care for mothers and babies because of lack of state and federal funds. (See next month's issue of **The Black Panther** for further details on the continuing infant mortality crisis in East Oakland—one of the worst in the nation.)

Black Chess Whiz Ranked 12th

(Oakland, Calif.) - Baraka Shabazz, the 14-year-old Black chess prodigy, now ranks twelfth among U.S. women chess players, according to the latest ranking made by the U.S. Chess Federation. In May of this year, Chess Life magazine ranked Baraka 39th among American women chess players. Baraka continues to need funds so that she may compete in chess tournaments and pay for her chess lessons. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible contribution or wishing to help in ongoing fundraising for Baraka may call the Black Panther Party at (415) 638-0195.

S.A.F.E. Founder Named To Oakland Commission

(Oakland, Calif.) - Mrs. Ruth Jones, one of the founders of the former Seniors Against A Fearful Environment (S.A.F.E.) program of the Oakland Community Learning Center, was sworn in in mid-September as a member of Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson's Commission on Aging. Mrs. Jones is a longtime activist in senior citizen and community affairs in Oakland.



Oakland Mayor LIONEL WILSON (left) congratulates Mrs. RUTH JONES, whom the mayor appointed to the city's Commission on Aging.

New Hearing For Gary Tyler

New Orleans—Gary Tyler, who has spent the past six years in jail for a crime he did not commit, will receive a new hearing. The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that Tyler's conviction was unconstitutional and ordered a hearing that could lead to a new trial. Tyler was framed on charges of killing a White youth during a racist mob attack on a school bus carrying Black high school students. Tried by an all-white jury and convicted of first degree murder on November 18, 1975, Tyler was put on death row at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola. Because Tyler was a juvenile at the time of his trial, he could be tried for first-degree murder only if it could be proven there was intent to kill or do great bodily harm to more than one person. One person claimed that his shoulder was grazed by the same bullet that killed Weber.

Black Woman To Head Calif. Prisons

(Sacramento, Calif.) - Ruth Rushen, the first woman and first Black ever to head the California prison system, has been confirmed by the state senate. The vote was 22-0 to confirm Gov. Brown's nomination of the 55-year-old former state parole board member and director of the Corrections Department.

Rushen was appointed by Brown in April, succeeding Jerry Enomoto.

Huey, Johnny Spain Appeal To Calif. Supreme Court



HUEY with PROF. TRILOKI PANDEY at BPP leader's graduation from University of California, Santa Cruz.

Widespread Support For Reversal of B.P.P. Leader's Gun Conviction

"The district attorney of Alameda County has seen fit to prosecute Huey P. Newton more than half a dozen times for major felonies since the Black Panther Party was founded. The sheer number and intensity of these prosecutions, with all the attendant publicity, has likely led some to believe that 'where there's smoke, there's fire,' that Newton must be guilty of something.

"But political opinion, speculation, and official calumny [slander] are not valid predicates for criminal prosecution. Not in a society that values individual liberty. By any fair measure of the law, Huey Newton did not violate Penal Code 12021 [possession of firearms by an ex-felon]. It ought not to be pretended that he did in order to punish him for crimes unproved."

San Francisco, Calif. - Signed by prominent Bay Area elected officials, an amici curiae (friend of the court) brief (excerpts above) has been filed with the California Supreme Court in support of Huey P. Newton's appeal that his conviction of being an ex-felon in possession of weapons be overturned.

California Assemblyman Willie L. Brown, Jr. Alameda County Supervisor John George, Oakland City Councilman Wilson Riles Jr., the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, National Lawyers Guild, the American Indian Movement, and Centro Legal de la Raza, Oakland, are listed in the friend of the court brief. The brief was filed in early September on Huey's behalf by attorney Fred Hiestand.

Other individuals and organizations who have expressed their support of Huey's appeal include Donald Hopkins, district administrator for Congressman Ronald Dellums; the Charles Briscoe Committee for Justice; White Panther Party; New American Movement; Women Against War; Youth International Party; Intercommunal Survival Schools of Sunnyvale and San Mateo, California; Dr. Philip Shapiro, noted San Francisco psychiatrist; Donald Freed, author and playwright; Rev. Edgar Haasl, pastor, St. Louis Bertrand Church, Oakland; attorneys Len W. Holt, Alexander P. Hoffman, Geoffrey Etnire and William Tamayo; David G. DuBois, journalist, author and former editor of **The Black Panther**; and longtime civil liberties activist Elsa Knight Thompson.

Following are excerpts from the main petition for hearing filed in Huey's appeal to the state Supreme Court by attorney Tom Steel:

"The Court of Appeal held that Mr. Newton was in fact a felon. Moreover, it held that Mr. Newton's belief that he was not a felon, no matter how reasonable and even if completely justified, provided no defense in the case at bar. The following facts demonstrate the extreme injustice of these holdings.

"In November of 1971, the Superior Court of Alameda County, the Honorable Lyle Cook presiding, held that appellant [Huey] waived his right to an attorney in the 1964 trial 'without an intelligent conception of the consequences of his act' and the ensuing conviction was therefore unconstitutional under the Sixth Amendment. Appellant was present in court in 1971 when Judge Cook ruled that the prior was unconstitutional. Appellant's motion to strike the prior conviction was granted and no appeal was taken by the prosecution.

"From this point forward appellant was not a felon and *no one who learned of the 1971 decision believed he was a felon*. Charles Garry represented appellant and was also present. Mr. Garry, a certified criminal law specialist and one of the leading criminal attorneys in the United States, told appellant that he was not a person convicted of a felony and that he had a right to possess a gun as well as exercise other incidents of non-felon status. Appellant registered to vote shortly thereafter and has voted ever since. Even more significantly, in March of 1972, Mr. Newton attempted to visit Mr. David Hilliard at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville. The question of his status as a felon arose since felons cannot visit inmates. Mr. Garry mailed a copy of Judge Cook's decision to the superintendent and explained that Mr. Newton was not a felon. Mr. Newton was allowed to visit.

"Moreover, in 1972 the district attorney of Alameda County charged appellant with exhibiting a pistol. . . . Significantly, the district attorney did not charge ap-

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JOHNNY SPAIN and his wife PINKEY.

Amnesty International Urges Retrial of San Quentin 6 Case

London, England - Amnesty International, the human rights organization which recently won the Nobel Peace Prize for its work in defense of political prisoners around the world, has asked the California Supreme Court to grant the State Public Defender's petition for hearing in the case of Johnny Larry Spain. In a letter to the court, Nigel Rodley, legal adviser to Amnesty International, has indicated that he did not believe Johnny received a fair trial under international standards.

The human rights organization has also asked California Attorney General George Deukmejian not to oppose Johnny's petition for hearing and request for retrial submitted to the state Supreme Court on September 2.

Saying that the shackling of Johnny throughout his 17-month trial was a "profoundly shocking" violation of United Nations Minimum standards, the London-based organization asked the state Supreme Court to hear Johnny's case after the California Court of Appeal affirmed his conviction in July. Amnesty stated that the Court of Appeal decision not to reverse Johnny's conviction resulted from an "uneven application of national law." "There is an inclination to wonder," Rodley wrote, "whether [the court of appeal's] decision is not abnormal rather than normal practice. . . . The dismissal of these irregularities. . .is especially difficult to comprehend when Mr. Spain, the only Black Panther on trial, was the only defendant convicted of the pivotal charges of conspiracy and murder."

In 1978, Amnesty International was asked to investigate Johnny's case on the grounds that his presence in the Adjustment Center at San Quentin Prison on August 21, 1971—when BPP member George Jackson was killed—was due solely to his political beliefs, and that the chaining and secret conferences held during the San Quentin Six trial violated the minimal standards of due process recognized by the international legal community.

The following are excerpts from Amnesty International's letter, written by Nigel Rodley, to the California Supreme Court:

"As you are no doubt aware, the San Quentin Six case has attracted widespread attention outside the United States, having, as it does, its origin in a period of American history when miscarriages of justice in cases of mixed racial and political content became sadly familiar to international public opinion. The attention of Amnesty International was, of course, drawn to these cases generally and at the appeal of Johnny Larry Spain there was an observer for Amnesty International.

"Having studied our observer's report, together with the opinion of the Court of Appeal of the state of California, Amnesty International has concluded that it should inform you of its continuing preoccupations regarding this case. I wish to make it clear that Amnesty International is. . . concerned that, particularly in cases with political overtones, the fairness of the trial should be beyond reproach. It would be difficult for Amnesty International to conclude that the trial of Johnny Larry Spain can be so categorized.

"The particular points of concern relate to the shackling of Mr. Spain throughout the trial and the issue of juror Fagan's [out of court] conversations with the trial judge.

"As to the shackling question, the Court of Appeal merely holds that the shackles had no effect on the jury's verdict because of certain acquittals. It is difficult to reconcile this reasoning in respect of a trial procedure, which apart from causing severe pain to a defendant, is profoundly shocking. Under the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, shackles are not even permitted in jail, except under very narrow conditions.

"The conclusion that some acquittals, including acquittals of the defendant in question on some charges, proves beyond reasonable doubt absence of bias in one or more jurors seems inconsistent with the gravity of the question. Such shackles surely deprive a criminal defendant of the presumption of innocence which is an integral part of a fair trial, as defined by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which has been signed by the United States.

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Blacks Protest Nationwide Cover-up of Police Murders



Black community of north Philadelphia confronts policemen after William Green, a Black youth, was murdered by a White policeman.

"I saw a cop beating him on the ground. He just kept hitting him upside the head with a gun. Then I heard the gun go off and saw them pick him up and take him to the wagon off Norris Street. He did have at least one handcuff on him" *before* he was murdered.

The above scenario is an eyewitness account by William Hull of the unprovoked pistol whipping and murder of a 17-year-old Black youth, William Green, in August by a White Philadelphia policeman. Green's skull was fractured twice in the pistol whipping by John Ziegler before the officer fatally shot the Black youth.

Green, who police authorities acknowledge was unarmed, was allegedly stopped for driving a stolen car in the mostly Black north Philadelphia neighborhood where he lived.

Across the country — in Los Angeles, Oakland, Colorado, Boston, New Orleans, Virginia and Mississippi—there are cases similar to the Green incident. And in each instance, whitewashed investigations continue to be the order of the day.

"The cover-up is as big, if not bigger than the crime itself," said Henry Owens, the attorney for the family of a 14-year-old Black youth who was murdered by a Boston policeman in July.

A Boston grand jury recently refused to indict officer Richard Bourque of the murder of Levi Hart. Owens blasted the grand jury and District Attorney Newman Flanagan over the decision, calling the proceeding a "bag job" whose only purpose was to clear Bourque.

Hart was killed after he was allegedly arrested on suspicion of car theft.

In an inquest report, Judge Richard Banks concluded that there was "ample reason" to believe that the death was "the result of an unlawful act or acts" by Bourque. Judge Banks said that the evidence contradicted Bourque's claim that Hart was killed accidentally during a struggle that followed the youth's snatching of Bourque's gun from its holster.

Two pathologists found that Hart suffered a massive skull fracture within moments of the shooting. Harcourt Lewis, an eyewitness cited by Judge Banks in the inquest report, said he saw Bourque strike Hart.

The trajectory of the single fatal bullet also discredited testimony that a struggle took place between the over six-foot, 220-pound cop and the five-and-a-half-foot, 100-pound victim.

Owens charged that the false police version of the killing was evidenced by a test performed on Hart's hands to see whether he had fired a gun. The nitrate test, performed by a police chemist, found no gunpowder traces. Bourque maintained that both he and Hart were holding the gun when it discharged.

In New Orleans, a 25-year-old Black man was fatally shot on Labor Day by two policemen.

Lawrence Louis was murdered outside Desire Housing Project. Official listings place the number of tenants in the predominantly Black, overcrowed and dilapidated 1,840-unit facility at 8,900, and 3,500 more are believed to live there "illegally."

"The police version (of Louis' murder) is a complete whitewash," charged Malcolm Suber, president of the Liberation League. "Our understanding is that police beat Louis in the head for five or six minutes at least before they shot him."

Police authorities claim that officers Michael Addison and Albert Spiess shot Louis during a scuffle while they were allegedly trying to arrest him for possession of a weapon.

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Black Juror Charges L.A. Cop Trial Was A Farce

(Los Angeles, Calif.) — The recent trial of three Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) members charged with shooting a Black man was a "set-up from the beginning," a Black jury member recently told a huge protest rally here.

The juror's account fueled the outrage of the demonstrators, who gathered to support an effort to place an initiative for a Citizens Police Review Board (CPRB) on the April 1981 ballot. The demonstration was led by the Campaign for a Citizen's Police Review Board (CCPRB).

"A victory for the Citizen's Police Review Board here in Los Angeles, the nation's second largest city, would have national, even international impact," campaign spokeswoman Anne Davis told the rally. "The LAPD is looked upon as a model department. In reality, however, the LAPD is a repressive, paramilitary force, whose arsenal is as well-stocked as the armies of many of the world's smaller countries."

In the past decade, there has been an alarming increase in police abuse in Los Angeles. "You wouldn't believe some of the horror stories I have heard," said Austin Strauss, former director of Amnesty International's Los Angeles chapter. "Many of them sound like something you hear about in Nazi Germany. Sometimes I wonder, 'Is this Germany in the 1930s or 1940s?' No, it's L.A. in 1980."

In 1979, the LAPD was involved in 56 shootings resulting in 14 deaths. This is a decrease from the previous four years, a direct result of community pressure on the police. The growth of the movement against police abuse has multiplied dramatically in the past year.

The most dramatic moment in the rally was the appearance of Leonard Elder, a jurist in the recent trial of three LAPD officers for the unprovoked attack on a South Los Angeles gas station attendant, Cornelius Tatum. Officers fired 11 shots without warning as the victim dispensed cigarettes to a customer. Tatum was paralyzed for life from the waist down as a result of the shooting.

The officers were acquitted. Elder indicated that the other two jurors who did not vote for acquittal were Black. (Four of the 12 jurors were Black.)

"I was called upon to do a job," Elder told the rally. "From what I could see, the job was set up from the beginning to be done a certain way to reach a certain verdict. In reality, the only reason these officers were brought to trial was because Tatum was not killed. Had he been killed these three cops would have never entered a court of law. They would have been transferred to another division and been out on the streets the next day, the dead man forgotten in the minds of most of the people. . . .

"Throughout this trial, the D.A. worked against himself," Elder continued. "He did not present the kind of evidence needed for a conviction, even though it was clear that he could have. I was not the only juror to wonder, 'Whose side is he on?'"

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Behind The Walls

Black Inmates At Soledad Appeal For Help

Soledad State Prison is one of California's most violent and racist penal facilities. Below, we reprint a letter to the Prisoner Rights Task Force from Leonard N. Alexander, a Black inmate at Soledad who appeals for help in the defense of 12 Black inmates who are being tried on conspiracy, assault and murder charges arising from three incidents at Soledad prison in 1979.

"The district attorney and the Department of Corrections are attempting to use every vile and covert tactic possible in order to gain convictions against 12 Black co-defendants charged in racial disturbances in 1979. Some effort must be made to investigate and provide aid for these brothers who are fighting racism here at Soledad State Prison.

"Going back to the racial altercation that occurred February 12, 1979, White and Mexican prisoners attacked a group of Black prisoners. Numerous injuries were suffered by Black prisoners, the worst injury being to one who suffered the loss of an eye and sustained brain damage. At last report he is now a partial vegetable.

"Neither this inmate nor any other Black inmates who suffered injuries during the altercation were offered sentence commutation or an early release due to injuries they received.

"Concerning the racial altercation that occurred August 19, 1979, White and Mexican prisoners attacked a group of Black prisoners. Numerous injuries were suffered by Black prisoners, the worst injuries being to those severely beaten by baseball bats and various other club-like weapons.

"Again, neither the Black inmates who were stabbed nor the ones who were beaten were offered sentence commutation or any early release.

"In regards to the December 6, 1979, racial altercation, several of the prosecution's witnesses have already been exposed as proving perjured testimony.

"A prosecution witness testified at a preliminary hearing that he had observed several specific Black prisoners involved in the assault of a specific White prisoner. Under vigorous cross-examination, the witness broke down and admitted that he lied in his testimony. He lied because the prison administration told him that he would not be allowed to transfer to protective custody unless he agreed to testify against specific Black prisoners.

"Under further investigation it was disclosed that during the initial investigation process, the prosecution witness stated that he did not see anyone do anything. But, in February 1980 a prison made knife was found in his cell (which is a felony violation), and it was then that the prison administration coerced him to provide perjured testimony against several of the Black co-defendants. He has not faced any formal prosecution for possession of a prison made weapon, and it is believed that the district attorney declined to formally prosecute him because he agreed to provide testimony against Black prisoners.

"A second prosecution witness has provided extremely conflicting testimony, again for dubious reasons. He was transferred from South facility back to North facility during August or September for possession of drugs and cash money, which are felony and institutional violations. He has never faced formal prosecution from the district attorney, nor has he ever been sent to the hole pending an official disciplinary investigation.

"It has been expressed among unofficial channels that he is now working as an administrative confidential informant, in return for leniency for the felony and institutional disciplinary charges that he was facing.

"During March 1980, defense attorney John A. Howell made a motion to disclose any deals, immunities, or promises for leniency, so we could challenge or cross-examine these various witnesses as to the veracity of their testimony. The prosecution stated that no such promises had been made so the motion was denied.

"Now it has been disclosed that the district attorney and the Department of Corrections have, in fact, played a key role in gaining commutation of sentence and early release for several key prosecution witnesses.

"The Black co-defendants are presently on trial for murder, assault and conspiracy charges against White and Mexican prisoners. We are being forced to appear in court in predominantly White communities. Our attorneys are being forced to try to defend us before judges who are under political, community and personal pressure to favor the district attorney's attempts to gain convictions against us.

"Two of us have been forced to go to trial in front of an all-White jury. Our attorneys appear to be doing everything they can to defend us, but all of the circumstances surrounding the trials tend to deny us a fair trial.

"I hope the information that I have pointed out to you will encourage you and your agency to initiate an investigation into the racist circumstances surrounding these trials, and I hope you will be able to generate some type of legal assistance or public support for us."□



DESSIE WOODS

Dessie Woods Seeks Parole

(Gainesville, Fla.) - In mid-October, Dessie Woods will be eligible for parole release. Efforts are currently underway to secure job offerings, living accommodations, letters of recommendation, and other conditions necessary for parole. Dessie Woods, her lawyer Dennis Cunningham, and the National Committee to Defend Dessie Woods (NCDDW) believe that with these conditions met, and with the tremendous show of international recognition and support that has been built for Dessie's case, chances are high for her release in October.

Dessie, a Black woman from Georgia, has served four and a half years of a 22-year prison sentence. In 1975, she defended herself and her friend from an armed White rapist by shooting and killing him with his own unlicensed gun.

During her years in prison, Dessie has been harrassed, drugged with powerful mind-control drugs, beaten and subjected to nude solitary confinement. Her case is currently on appeal in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, and is due to be heard this autumn.

Dessie has repeatedly defended her actions, charging that her imprisonment is a racial issue stemming from the fact that a Black woman defended herself from an attack by a White man. The NCDDW points out how her conviction and long sentence stands in sharp contrast to the acquittal of the four White police officers who murdered Arthur McDuffie in Miami, and the lenient treatment of the Klansmen who admitted shooting four Black women in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Dessie's supporters believe that the parole is the strongest immediate avenue for her release. However, the NCDDW cautions against putting too much hope in the hearing based on the fact that Dessie has been promised and denied parole in the past. "This could simply be an attempt to make us let up the pressure," stated an NCDDW member. "Therefore, we must do just the opposite. We must escalate the efforts to free Dessie Woods on all levels."

The NCDDW also notes the unpredictability of Dessie's situation because of her involvement in the constant fight for the rights of the Black women in the prison and her constant fighting of attacks against her.

To escalate the attempt to free Dessie Woods and to heighten the possibility of her release on parole, the National Committee to Defend Dessie Woods held an international "Week for Dessie" earlier in September. The week's activities were designed to concentrate and focus the support that has been built in Europe and throughout the U.S. Programs, rallies, letter writing, phone-ins, petition gathering and fundraising activities took place internationally, demonstrating to the parole board the strong support for Dessie's case.

The demonstrations took place at Democratic Party headquarters around the country and at U.S. embassies in Europe. Attention was called to the hypocritical stance taken by the Carter administration by ignoring the plight of Dessie Woods and failing to improve the conditions of Black Americans in general. Dessie was convicted in Georgia while Carter was serving as governor. Throughout his terms in Georgia and as president, Carter has done nothing to reverse these injustices despite talk of human rights elsewhere in the world.

The NCDDW is also calling on supporters to participate in a boycott of the presidential elections. "A vote for either Carter or Reagan is a vote for the continued oppression of our people as in the case of Dessie Woods," stated the committee. "Record numbers of Black people live below poverty level. One out of four Black men go to prison in his lifetime. Police freely murder us in our communities. This situation has only gotten worse with Carter and we know that Reagan is an even more dangerous alternative. Neither candidate has the interests of Dessie Woods or any Black person in mind."

Members of the NCDDW have traveled throughout the U.S. and in 1979, the chairperson of the NCDDW toured Europe speaking to over 20,000 people at the Copenhagen Women's Festival and to supporters in Denmark, Germany, France and England.

In addition to the active support built in these countries, defense committees and supporters are currently working in Switzerland, Ireland, New Zealand and, in this country, in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Alabama, Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, Michigan, California, Oregon and Washington.

Letters of support and signatures on petitions have come from virtually every state in the country. Endorsements and statements of support were signed by noted individuals such as California Congressman Ronald Dellums, Berkeley's Mayor Gus Newport, California Assemblyman Willie Brown, Alameda County Supervisor John George, Ruby Dee, William Kunstler, Leonard Weinglass and others.□

Speech By Gay Activist

"We Must Shape A World Where All Can Flourish"

Two Black women sailors were recently convicted and discharged from the U.S. Navy after being found guilty of committing "homosexual acts." Two White gay women sailors, similarly charged, were acquitted.

Despite the growth of the gay liberation movement in the last decade, gay men and women in America continue to be denied employment, housing and other rights afforded to all citizens. Black and other Third World gay people suffer doubly.

Following are excerpts from a speech made by Audre Lorde, a Black gay woman poet, at the National Third World Lesbian and Gay Conference held in Washington, D.C. Lorde calls on Third World gay people to unite so that their children may live in a world "free from the diseases of racism, sexism, classism and the terror of any difference." The speech is reprinted from **Gay Insurgent**.

I wish to applaud every single one of you sitting here tonight. It is a wonderful and profound experience to see the row upon row of us gathered here, for we are the proof of the power of vision.

The ignorance will end when each one of us begins to seek out and trust the knowledge deep inside us, when we dare to go into that chaos which exists before understanding and come back with new tools for action and change. For it is from within that deep knowledge that our visions are fueled, and it is our vision which lays the groundwork for our actions, and for our future.

This conference is an affirmation of the power of vision. It is a triumph of vision to say the words, even, National Conference of Third World Lesbians and Gays. Thirty years ago, that was only possible in our dreams of what might someday come to pass.

And yet, as we know, we have always been everywhere, haven't we? The power of vision nourishes us, encourages us to grow and to change, and to work toward a future which is not yet.

So I stand here as a 46-year-old Black lesbian feminist poet come to do my work as we have each come to do hers and his—the tasks of joyfulness, of struggle, of community, and the work of redefining our joint power and goals, so that our younger people need never suffer in the isolation that so many of us have known.

In the affirmation of our coming together and the potential power of our numbers, remember how much work there is still to be done in our communities. In the present, vision must point the way toward action upon every level of our varied existences; the way we vote, the way we eat, the way we relate to each other, the way we raise our children, the way we work for change. We are here not only to share experience and connection, not only to discuss the many aspects of freedom for all homosexual peoples. We are also here to examine our roles as powerful forces within our communities. For not one of us will be free until we are all free, and until all members of our communities are free.

So we are here to help shape a world where all people can flourish, beyond sexism, beyond racism, beyond ageism, beyond classism, and beyond homophobia (fear of gay people). In order to do this, we must see ourselves within the context of a civilization that has notorious disrespect and loathing for any human value, for any human creativity or genuine human difference. And it is upon our ability to look honestly upon our differences, to see them as creative rather than divisive, that our future success may lie.

We are here as a conference of Third World lesbians and gay men. That tells us what brings us together. There is a wonderful diversity of groups within this conference, and a wonderful diversity between us within those groups. That diversity can be a generative force, a source of energy fueling our visions of action for the future.

We must not let diversity be used to tear us apart from each other, nor from our communities. This is the mistake they made about us. I do not want us to make it about ourselves.

In this country, historically, all oppressed peoples have been taught to fear and despise any difference among ourselves, since difference had been used against us so cruelly. And we all know how particularly painful homophobia in our communities can be, since we also share a struggle with our homophobic sisters and brothers.

Therefore our moves for change should be illuminated by that knowledge, should implement those lessons which we have learned within the communities of which we are a part. And we must never forget those lessons; that we cannot separate our oppressions, nor yet are they the same. That not one of us is free until we are all free; and that any move for our dignity and freedom is a move also for our community sisters and brothers, whether or not they have the vision to see it.

And between ourselves, difference must not be used to separate us, but to generate energy for social change at the same time as we preserve individuality. And although we have been programmed to look upon each other with suspicion and with fear (the old divide and conquer routine), we can move beyond that fear by learning to respect our visions of the future more than we respect our terrors of the past. And this cannot be done without strenuous personal effort, and the sometimes painful scrutinies of change.

For make no mistake. Not only are our straight sisters and brothers, but we too have been taught to react to any difference with the killer instinct: destroy. I call it jugular vein psychology; "I don't like the way you act, so I'm going to eliminate you immediately." Well that is not going to work for us here. We are going to learn how to make our differences into power and fuel for vision and for change.

We have to ask ourselves some difficult questions. For instance, what does real support mean in a consistently hostile environment? What does a genuinely non-sexist, non-racist culture require and imply? What does the responsibility of community mean? Does it mean only a trick handshake, the latest fashion in cruising clothes, the right to hold hands in the street? Or does it mean building genuine networks of support for each other and our communities, so that wherever, however, whenever we are functioning within this system which cannibalizes our loves and our lives; whenever and however we function within this system, we work to bring about more humanity and more light for each other and for those, who like ourselves, have felt the keen edge of rejection?

I think we are all here because we are seeking a new kind of power; a force for change beyond the old forms which did not serve us. We are here because each of us believes in a future for ourselves and for those who come after us. We are redefining our power for a reason, and that reason is a future, and that future lies in our children and our young people.

I'm speaking here not only about those children we may have mothered and fathered ourselves, but about all our children together, for they are our joint responsibility and our joint hope. They have a right to grow, free from the diseases of racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, and the terror of any difference. These children will take what we do and carry it on through their visions, and their visions will be different in turn from ours.

But they need us as role-models, to know that they are not alone in daring to define themselves outside the approved structures. They need to know our triumphs, and our errors.

The idea of this conference was not an impossible dream. Now the future is ours, with vision and with work. And that work will not be easy, for those who fear our visions will try to keep them silent and invisible. But the ignorance will end, when each of us is prepared to put ourselves upon the line to end it, within ourselves, and within our communities. That is real love, that is real power.

We stand as the last bulwark of humanity in an increasingly depersonalized and anti-human world. A search for acceptance within that world must never blind us to the need for genuine and far-reaching change. We must always ask ourselves, what kind of world do we really want to become a part of?

As lesbians and gay men, we have been the most despised, the most oppressed and the most spat upon people within our communities. AND we have survived. That survival is a testament to our strength. We have survived, and we have come together now to use that strength to implement a future; hopefully, a future that shall be free from the mistakes of our oppressors, as well as from our own. □

THE BLACK PANTHER

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To Our Readers

Beginning in October 1980, **The Black Panther Intercommunal News Service** will become a monthly newsletter and will discontinue as a monthly tabloid newspaper. Continuing financial problems have made this change necessary.

The following will be applied to current newspaper subscribers: those with a year's subscription will receive the newsletter free for two years; six months' subscribers will receive the newsletter free for one year; and three months' subscribers will receive the newsletter free for six months. The length of time you will receive the newsletter free will be based on the date your newspaper subscription began.

New subscribers to the newsletter may purchase a year's subscription for $10.00. The newsletter will be sold at $1.00 per issue.

The Black Panther newsletter will follow the same general format as the newspaper, providing news and analysis of key local, national and international events.

Your contributions are needed to help maintain **The Black Panther** newsletter. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Black Panther Party and mailed to 7622 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, California 94605.

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EDITORIAL

Poisons In Our Environment

"I'm scared," said the 24-year-old pregnant mother, who lives 200 yards from a repository for hazardous and toxic wastes in southern California. "Not only for the unborn baby but for all of us. The concern about our safety is always there because of all these chemicals."

According to a report issued in mid-September by the U.S. Surgeon General's office to the Senate Environment Committee, poisonous chemicals are rapidly adding to America's "disease burden."

"We believe that the magnitude of the public health risk associated with toxic chemicals currently is increasing and will continue to do so until we are successful in identifying chemicals which are highly toxic and controlling the introduction of these chemicals into our environment," the report said.

The Senate Finance Committee has opened hearings on legislation to clean up toxic wastes. The problem, which has surfaced in recent months in such places as the Love Canal in New York and off the California coastline, where the federal government has dumped atomic wastes, is critical. It takes several years for the effects of the chemicals to show up in medical studies, making it impossible to say exactly how serious the problem is.

Government agencies at every level have demonstrated their lack of concern about the danger to the public health that toxic chemicals pose. According to a report buried in Department of Energy files, government officials knew for almost 20 years before it was disclosed in early September, that nuclear waste containers dumped off the California cost were being severely damaged on their descent to the ocean floor and releasing their radioactive contents into the surrounding waters.

An estimated 47,500, 55-gallon drums filled with radioactive wastes were dumped into the Pacific Ocean near San Francisco between 1946 and 1965. In addition, some 28,000 drums containing atomic wastes were dumped into two sites in the Atlantic.

A recent report by the Library of Congress stated that many poisonous chemicals and pesticides "are so long-lasting and so pervasive in the environment that *virtually the entire human population of the nation, and indeed the world, carries some body burden of one or several of them.*"

While congressional legislation may help to ensure that existing toxic wastes are cleaned up, the basic cause of the problem remains: how to prevent government agencies and private businesses from dumping these chemicals in the environment. Until this issue is resolved, pregnant women will continue to fear for the lives of their unborn babies. □



LARRY ROBERSON
Assassinated:
September 4, 1969
Chicago, Illinois

On July 14, 1969, Larry Roberson, 20, and another member of the Chicago Chapter of the Black Panther Party noticed police harassing a group of elderly Black men, forcing them to line up against a wall. When Larry and his comrade attempted to defend the men, an argument started with the police, and the police drew their guns and began shooting. Larry, although critically wounded in the stomach, thigh and leg, managed to wound two policemen. Taken to Cook County Hospital and placed under police guard, Larry was harassed, threatened and periodically beaten. On September 4, 1969, he died in Cook County Hospital.



NATHANIEL CLARK
Assassinated:
September 12, 1969
Los Angeles, California

Eight days after the death of Larry Roberson, Nathaniel Clark, a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Party, was murdered as he slept. Nathaniel was the seventh Party member killed in 1969.

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Fallen Comrades

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COMMENT

Boycott Presidential Election

While it is possible for poor and working people to have influence on local elections, they have no impact on presidential elections. In 1974, the Black Panther Party called for the elimination of the presidency and the return of all the powers illegally taken by the office of the president to Congress, which, under the constitution, is elected to represent all citizens. In the following article reprinted from the Guardian, Stephen DeGange urges the American people to boycott the 1980 presidential election.

Today, more people than ever have the right to vote. Today, more people than ever choose not to. In fact, there is no reason to vote; the outcome of presidential elections is inconsequential.

Does it matter whether a Democrat or a Republican sits in the Oval Office? Not particularly. Does day-to-day life change when the administration changes? Not significantly. Ideological differences between the two major parties are imperceptible. A little less butter here, a few less guns there.

A Republican President befriends the Chinese while a Democratic President invades Cuba. Both parties promise peace and prosperity. Neither delivers. And of course third parties or independent candidacies are not allowed to participate in any meaningful way.

Today, a person who wants to be a leader goes out first and finds a constituency rather than the constituency finding a leader. To compound this distortion, those people who do vote seem not to vote for the person who best represents their concerns but rather for the person who is judged to have the best chance of winning. To scoop an analogy from the world of sports, the right to vote has become the right to bet on one of the two teams rather than the right to help decide what plays will be used in the game.

One of the culprits is the advent and dominance of marketing research and popularity polls.

The application of market research and ratings pools to national politics has distorted the quest for public office. The selling of politicians has become just another business venture. As the presidential primaries approach every four years, a product, a candidate, is tested in the marketplace. The "product" is packaged so as to appeal to the largest number of constituents.

Obviously, only the very best features of a candidate are advertised much as cigarette advertising dwells on the promise of rich taste and not the spectre of lung cancer. Opinions held by the candidate which might be unpopular are not revealed. Thoughtful discussion on the great matters of state are replaced by 30-second advertising bombs and tag lines on print ads.

All the candidates play the polls. The objective is to be most popular, not most representative or most wise.

Elections in a democracy should be simple, especially in a country where a medium as pervasive as television could bring all candidates, equally, to most of the people in a common forum. Interviews and discussions could be aired economically over a stated number of weeks or months.

Alas, television is one of our most conservative institutions. Its role as an enemy of progressive political thought cannot be overstated. Its primary function, of course, is to deliver an audience to its advertisers. One of its powers is to annoint and sanction a political candidacy.

What television does is personalize and trivialize politics. We see the candidates smiling, boarding airplanes, spewing rhetoric at fundraising dinners, carrying their suits in hang-up bags, talking to Terry Bradshaw or Linda Ronstadt. Like Mork and Muhammed Ali they must entertain us. That's what television is for.

But it is hard to be entertaining while offering serious thoughts on oil depletion allowances and what to do with half a million unemployed automobile workers. It is only after the candidate is elected that we can see what he thinks and by then it is too late.

Imagine hypothetically that 60 per cent of all eligible voters elect not to vote; this is not an unreasonable figure. Imagine, too, that Carter and Reagan and Anderson divide what's left into thirds. The one who eventually claims the Oval Office might do so with less than 15 per cent of the population's support. This makes a farce of democracy and free elections.

While we are all staying away from the polling booths, what's to be done? Here are some suggestions:

- *Don't worry about the presidential election going on around you.*
- *Mistrust every word of political advertising you hear or read.*
- *Ignore each and every political poll.*
- *Ignore party designations. Whether a candidate is a Democrat or a Republican is meaningless. Neither party represents anything concrete.* □

World Crisis: 435 Million Starving People



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"Poverty is the basic cause of hunger today."

— Report, President's Commission on World Hunger

"The odds are high...that (nuclear) control would be lost on both sides...the resulting fatalities would run into the scores of millions."

— U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown

U.S. Nuclear War Strategy

Presidential Directive 59

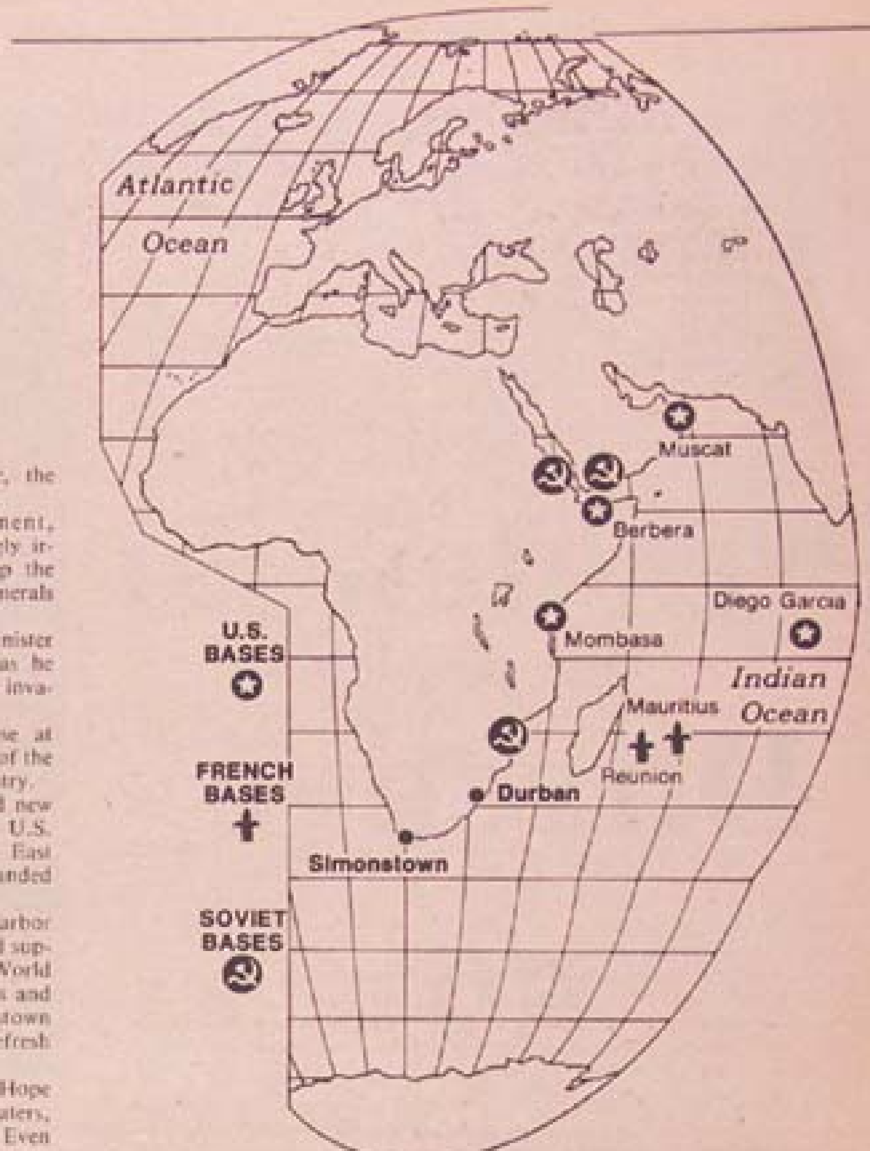


'Boy are we lucky it was only a limited nuclear war!'

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International Defense and Aid Fund Study

South Africa Builds Massive War Machine



(London, England) - South Africa has moved from a police state in the 1960's to a military state, according to a paper published recently by the International Defense and Aid Fund in London.

"The state, uncompromisingly committed to the maintenance of White supremacy, has responded to the increasing levels of organized political and military resistance by throwing all its energy into the concentration of resources in a massive military buildup," the authors conclude in *The Apartheid War Machine*.

"A large and well-oiled military machine . . . is capable not only of safeguarding White supremacy in the republic and of occupying the territory of Namibia (South-West Africa), but also of attacking other countries in southern Africa and thus posing a very real threat to world peace," the paper states.

Using South African government sources and press reports, the fund has pieced together a detailed picture of the country's military capacity and goals—perhaps the most complete outside the secret headquarters in Pretoria, the **Los Angeles Times** reports.

The increasing mobilization to develop a "total national strategy" for South Africa has been accentuated by the accession to the premiership of Pieter W. Botha, who continues to hold the position of minister of defense.

The Apartheid War Machine details the massive increase in defense spending. Defense Force total expenditure now accounts for 16.6 per cent of state expenditure.

South Africa now manufactures a sizable portion of its armaments needs; the authors conclude that the country "is now impressively, though by no means completely, self-sufficient."

The mandatory arms embargo imposed by the United Nations has not had most of the desired effect. More ominously, the authors say, South Africa is being pushed "into the international arena as a middle-power arms producer and supplier—with potentially serious consequences for peace elsewhere in the world."

Where is all this leading? The authors quote statements from 1977 onward indicating that the defense chiefs believe that there is conflict between the needs of "the democratic system of government" and the need to develop a total national strategy for the defense of apartheid.

Botha, prime minister of South Africa for 18 months, is clearly the man most responsible for developing the "military state." The state security council "appears to have taken over from the cabinet as the key decision-making body," and "while in its present condition South Africa can hardly be classified as a democratic state, the political implications are clear."

The Whites-only Parliament, therefore, will become increasingly irrelevant: a talking shop to keep the politicians occupied while the generals (and Botha) make the decisions.

That Botha is now prime minister hardly inspires confidence: It was he who pushed South Africa into the invasion of Angola in 1975-76.

The South African naval base at Simonstown provides an example of the growing militarization of the country.

The base has suddenly assumed new geopolitical prominence as the U.S. Navy and others seek suitable East African bases to support expanded operations in the Indian Ocean.

For many years, Simonstown harbor served Allied navies as a repair and supply base in time of war. During World War II, about 230 Allied warships and merchant vessels put in at Simonstown to deal with battle damage and refresh their crews.

Located near the Cape of Good Hope and sheltered by concrete breakwaters, the base was long a British enclave. Even after South Africa acquired it in 1957, elements of the Royal Navy were based here. The British withdrew entirely in 1976, as an economy measure and as a gesture of protest against policies of the South African government that discriminate against its Black majority.

American warships used to visit Simonstown. Then harassment of Black American sailors on shore leave brought such stopovers to an end. The last U.S. Navy vessel to call at Cape Town harbor, on the Atlantic side of the Cape, was the carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1968. When Black sailors were abused by South African Whites, the carrier's captain, on instructions from Washington, canceled the rest of the visit and put to sea.

Past unpleasantness is remembered, but there is evidence today that high-level American and British military commanders are urging their governments to place global defense needs ahead of political differences with South Africa.

There are also signs that South Africa's government would be delighted to host the Allies again in Simonstown and at the naval station on the Indian Ocean at Durban. Built as a fallback facility for the British fleet after Singapore was captured by the Japanese in World War II, the Durban base is being modernized.

A South African Defense Ministry official said that no formal American approach has been made for use of South African naval bases but added, "It would be very sensible of the United States to take cognizance of our infrastructure (in Simonstown and Durban)."

The South African navy recently gave foreign correspondents a tour of the Simonstown base, providing a look at its small, efficient fleet and an appraisal of the Soviet naval threat in the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic.

Capt. Edmund Palmer, a South African naval intelligence officer, made these points in a briefing:

42 Ships

• The U.S. Navy at present has 42 ships in the Indian Ocean. Most of them operate out of the island of Diego Garcia. Additional facilities, at Berbera in Somalia, Mombasa in Kenya and Masirah in Oman, are being made available but they cannot meet all the needs of such sophisticated ships as Nimitz-class carriers and are unlikely to be able to do so for years. South Africa can do so now, Capt. Palmer said.

• The Soviet Navy has 32 vessels in the Indian Ocean, operating out of old facilities in Ethiopia, South Yemen and Mozambique.

• The French have re-established a naval presence in the Indian Ocean, with 15 ships based on the islands of Reunion and Mauritius in the southern Indian Ocean. The British have a task force of six ships in the area, perhaps on a temporary basis.

• The trade route around the Cape of Good Hope remains as active as in the past, despite the reopening of the Suez Canal. South African aerial reconnaissance showed that about 2,300 ships rounded the Cape during the first six months of this year. Most were merchant ships, including many tankers carrying oil from the Persian Gulf. Soviet and American ships patrol the Gulf, showing their flags, monitoring traffic and occasionally "exercising" against each other to test tactics.

At Simonstown, correspondents saw South African frigates, mine sweepers and the country's newest strike craft, a high-speed, 100-foot-long vessel equipped with missiles. Built in South Africa, it is patterned after the Israeli attack vessel used in raids against Lebanon.

South Africa also has three conventionally powered submarines bought from France before an alleged arms embargo was imposed against South Africa in 1977 because of its racial policies.

Correspondents requested—but were denied—an opportunity to see "Silvermine," South Africa's combined-services underground surveillance and communications headquarters in the hills near Simonstown.

However, informed sources said that Silvermine is a nerve-center of South African defense, monitoring ocean traffic, coordinating aerial sightings and cargo manifest reports to get a general idea of merchant cargoes and destinations.

More important in recent years has been Silvermine's other communications and data computing equipment. Sources said some of it is possibly being used to help the South African army in its battle against insurgents in Namibia.

Part of Silvermine's equipment was installed before 1973, at North Atlantic Treaty Organization request, to link South Africa with a projected South Atlantic-Indian Ocean defense system.

Trial Begins For The "Gang of Four"



(Left to right) WANG HONGWEN, ZHANG CHUNG-QIAO, YAO AENYUAN and JIANG QING, widow of Mao Tse-tung.

(Beijing, China) - The so-called "Gang of Four" are reportedly standing trial here because of their staunch opposition to the direction of China's new leadership in downgrading the social and economic policies of the country's great revolutionary leader, Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

The four — Jiang Qing, Mao's widow, and three former members of the ruling Politburo, Zhang Chungqiao, Yao Aenyuan and Wang Hongwen — were arrested three weeks after Mao's death in October 1976.

The focus of the trial is the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution initiated by Mao, a period of tumultuous social upheaval in the late 1960's in which numerous high-ranking entrenched bureaucrats were purged from the Chinese Communist Party. Jiang, Zhang, Yao and Wang were leaders of the Cultural Revolution. Much of China's new leadership was purged at the time, including the influential VicePremier Deng Xiaoping, who was labeled by Mao as China's "No. 2 capitalist roader."

Jiang, about 66, was Mao's third wife. She was a Shanghai film actress and activist in the 1930's before joining the CCP. Jiang, who is reportedly suffering from Parkinson's disease, a muscular ailment, eventually became a Politburo member.

Yao, about 50, was an outstanding literary critic. In 1965, he wrote an attack on a play by the vice mayor of Peking that was critical of Mao, an influential article that helped launch the Cultural Revolution.

Zhang, about 66, was active in the government of Shanghai and another member of radical art and literary circles. He was know for his opinions on revolutionary education and once said:

"What type of person do you want to cultivate — an educated exploiter with bourgeois thinking or an uncultured laborer with socialist awareness? I'd rather have an ignorant worker."☐

Findings of New Study

Africa Is The Cradle of Civilization

(Boston, Mass.) - An anthropologist says his finding that domesticated cattle were used in East Africa long before they appeared in the Middle East raises new doubts about the traditional view of the Middle East as the "cradle of civilization."

Dr. Charles M. Nelson, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Massachusetts here, said recently that his five-year study found traces of domesticated cattle in East Africa dating back 15,000 years. This is approximately 8,000 years earlier than they are known to have been used in the "fertile crescent" of the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys.

"The traditional view outlined in textbooks is that we trace back our own culture and civilization to a single area of the world—the Middle East," Nelson said.

"The assumption has been that it's the cradle of civilization because it had all of the important ingredients—plant and animal domestication, early use of tools—which then spread to India, North Africa, and elsewhere.

"New information, however, suggests that many of these important elements did not originate in the Middle East, but in other areas and may have been transmitted there through trade, immigration and cultural diffusion. A critical number of these inventions may have come together first there, but the process in the Middle East did not spark the creation of civilization elsewhere."

Nelson's finding is one of several recent archaeological discoveries to cast doubt on the theory that many major societal breakthroughs originated in the Tigris and Euphrates valleys 7,000 years ago.

Last year anthropologist Fred Wendorf discovered signs that barley was cultivated and harvested in the Nile River Valley 18,000 years ago.

Nelson, a specialist in pastoral nomadic societies, said he and officials from the National Museum of Kenya uncovered the teeth and bones of cattle at three sites in the Lukenya Hill District. Using radiocarbon dating techniques and other methods, he determined the animals lived approximately 15,000 years ago.

The Kenya site, about 25 miles from Nairobi, is infested by tsetse flies, which would have killed any wild cattle, he said.

The fly is less common in settled villages, and Nelson said his evidence indicates inhabitants brought in cattle during the pre-Iron Age era for use in work and as a supplementary food source.

Continued on Page 15

AFRICA IN FOCUS

U.N. Debates Namibia Plan

(Luanda, Angola) - As the U.N. General Assembly opened in New York in September, Namibia was once again high on the agenda. No progress has been made since last year's session in gaining a just, internationally acceptable independence in the south African-occupied territory.

The only significant change has been a growth in the already mass support for the SWAPO liberation forces. This upswing has come as a direct result of the exposure of South Africa's tribal-based "three-tier" government plan for a phony Namibian independence.

Evidence of SWAPO's popularity is everywhere. The South African press reports, for example, that Pretoria has had to strike three ethnically and geographically diverse "tribes" from the voting list in October 5 "second tier" tribal elections.

The groups that refused to toe the line were the Basters or "coloreds," the Ovambos from the densely populated north whose thousands of migrant workers to the farms and factories form the backbone of working-class SWAPO support and whose peasants have long provided recruits and allies to the guerrillas' and the small Bushman tribe.

SWAPO's growth is taking place despite the intense repression of what is in theory a legal political organization. According to the Windhoek **Observer** newspaper in the Namibian capital: "In the face of constant repression by the authorities it is virtually a miracle that SWAPO is still in existence. The authorities have in large measure succeeded in curbing the activities of the movement and partly because of this and in spite of this the support for the movement continues to increase."

The article stressed that SWAPO has been unable to open its Windhoek headquarters for over a year, as each time militants open the door they are carted off to detention. "If they are released they are placed under house arrest or confined to their magisterial districts which makes it difficult for them even to work for a living." Yet as more SWAPO leaders are detained, the paper states, "new leaders rise to take their places."

Pretoria is meanwhile pushing ahead with its phony "autonomous" government plan. South Africa has made a formal "transfer of authority" of over 20,000 soldiers in 67 military units to its administrator general in Namibia. The Windhoek **Observer** stated bluntly, it was "one of the major moves in an internal settlement plan."

The fiction was denounced by even the Western press. The **Times** of London commented, "This will obviously be no more than rubber-stamping military decisions taken in Pretoria and by South African generals on the spot—it is a blatant attempt to bolster the prestige of the Council of Ministers." The council is the collaborator group now said by Pretoria to be "governing" Namibia.

U.S. Troops In Eqypt

(Washington, D.C.) - The U.S. plans to fly 1,400 soldiers to Egypt in November in the first overseas exercise of the new Rapid Deployment Force, administration officials disclosed in September.

The officials said that the Egyptian government had given tentative approval to the plan but that a final agreement and details were still to be arranged.

The airlift of the troops, if it goes as scheduled, would represent another step in the gradual buildup of an American military presence in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf.

The U.S. has a fleet of more than 30 ships in the Indian Ocean, has flown many long-range B-52 bomber missions there, has rotated a reinforced battalion of Marines aboard ship in the region and has dispatched a squadron of Phantom jet fighters to train with the Egyptian Air Force.

150 Million Africans Starving

(Rome, Italy) — More than 150 million Africans face the specter of famine worse than suffered in the 1973-74 drought unless wealthy countries send massive emergency shipments of cereal by the end of the year, United Nations officials report.

In an attempt to stem the starvation gripping 25 African nations, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization convened a special meeting to launch an urgent drive aimed at securing enough wheat, rice and maize (corn) to feed them.

The U.N. is seeking 550,000 tons of cereal to be shipped quickly to Somalia and Ethiopia — which shelter a total of more than one million refugees — and to eight nations of the Sahel area, south of the Sahara. During the 1973-74 drought in the Sahel, tens of thousands of people died, along with 3.5 million head of cattle.

Ethiopia Blasts U.S. Base

(Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) — Ethiopia's head of state has denounced the agreement for the U.S. to use a military base in neighboring Somalia.

Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, who led the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974, made the statement to visiting foreign journalists.

Mengistu referred to the new U.S. agreement with Somalia for use of a base in Berbera. He equated American policy in the region with expansionism by Nazi Germany.

"When the U.S. puts its rapid deployment force and its missiles and weapons in a vicinity that is only 150 kilometers (100 miles) from our national territory, if we had the power we would be fully prepared to declare war on the U.S.," he said.

South Africa Steps Up Border Raids

Angola Begins Election of Popular Assembly



(Luanda, Angola) - Millions of Angolan voters recently took the first step in organizing People's Power, a new system of popular organs intended to broaden the base of mass participation in the government.

The elections of People's Power electoral colleges were held despite a new series of intensive South African bombing raids across southern Angola. Throughout the country, workers and peasants gathered in factories, on farms and in towns and villages to select representatives who will then vote for candidates to Angola's first National Assembly.

The elected assembly will be the highest organ of state power, replacing the current appointed Revolutionary Council. It will have the power to legislate, debate policy and to check and criticize government activities.

Candidates are to be nominated by the Movement for the Popular Liberation of Angola (MPLA) Worker's Party and by the party youth organization. Non-party mass organizations—the Organization of Angolan Women (OMA) and the trade unions, through the Central Trade Union Congress (UNTA)—will also nominate candidates.

Assembly members need not be members of the MPLA, and the assembly will not be under direct instructions from the party. According to party organizing secretary Lucio Lara, party members elected to the assembly "would seek to influence" debate and positions adopted in the national body. But there will not be any links between the assembly and party structures, "nor should there be any such link," Lara stressed.

The decision to elect the 206-member National Assembly via a system of electoral colleges rather than directly was based on the present overwhelming illiteracy in the country and the lack of any accurate post-independence population statistics. There will be a majority of working-class and peasant candidates, and a good proportion of women—guaranteed by the participation of the women's organization in the nominating process.

There has been a series of meetings of workers and peasants at their workplaces and in residential wards to explain the election process and the objectives of the National Assembly as the highest organ of People's Power. Care is being taken to insure even the oldest and least literate members of the community are clear about what is going on. Lots of time is allotted for questions and answers.

Elections for the National Assembly will proceed through September, with candidates posted well in advance of the voting. Candidates will visit workplaces and neighborhoods to meet the people, whose view will then be expressed through their elected representatives. During November, a second series of elections will take place countrywide for the second rung of People's Power—the 18 Provincial People's Assemblies. Later, the people will elect municipal and communal assemblies.

Assembly members will continue to work at their ordinary jobs except during assembly sessions. In this way, the highest state organ will involve workers and peasants with ties to the masses and not create a separate bureaucratic elite. "Our National Assembly members will be the link between the masses and the highest organ of the state, while they will also be the link transmitting what the National Assembly decides down to the shop floor," said government spokesman Zeferino Estevao.

Through the People's Power assemblies, the people will discuss national and local problems. For example, problems of production or the fight against right-wing, anti-government terrorist groups. "At the same time," Estevao said, "through the assemblies, the people will make officials answerable to the masses for their actions. Both collective and individual responsibility will be checked on." He added: "This does not mean we are establishing a third center of power alongside the party and the government. The party is of course the leading force in the revolution."

While the People's Power elections are in full swing, preparations are also underway for the special party congress to be held in December. The main task will be to debate and approve plans for the economy for the next five years, with the focus being the struggle for economic independence.

Taking part in the congress will be Central Committee members, government ministers and overseas ambassadors (all party members) and representatives from party provincial committees, the party youth organization, the mass organizations, trade unions and armed forces. Besides discussing the economy, the congress will vote to confirm Jose Eduardo Dos Santos as party leader (he was elected in emergency vote by the Central Committee last year to replace the late Agostinho Neto) and to enlarge the Central Committee to its full number.

(The above article is reprinted from the Guardian.)□

WORLD SCOPE

El Salvador Uprising Spreads

(San Salvador, El Salvador) — At least 35 people, including 10 leftists shot to death by government soldiers clearing out an occupied church, died in September in the start of an offensive to oust the U.S.-backed junta.

The 10 militants shot to death were occupying the Santa Lucia church in Zacatecoluca, 27 miles southwest of the capital, the military said.

About 30 members of the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Front protesting government repression seized the church. The church seizure coincided with the occupation of 17 schools in the capital and four other cities by members of the Front, an alliance of all of the groups opposing El Salvador's ruling civilian-military junta. The stepped-up guerilla actions are part of what the front called "the start of a series of hostilities...that soon will turn into the general offensive that will topple" the ruling junta.

23 Sentenced in S. Korean Sedition Trial

(Seoul, South Korea) — A military court in September sentenced the nation's leading dissident, Kim Dae Jung, to death on charges of attempting to overthrow the government by force.

A panel of four generals also sentenced 23 of Kim's supporters to terms of 3 to 20 years in prison each—almost exactly as the prosecution demanded.

The sentences now go automatically to a higher military court for review, then to the nation's supreme court. President Chun Doo Hwan will also have a chance to commute Kim's death sentence.

Execution in South Korea is by hanging.

In a defense summary against the sedition charges, Kim proclaimed "I have made every effort to achieve democracy but I never tried to seize power by an insurrection."

Kim said his interrogation verged "on the very point short of torture" and many of his co-defendants said they were beaten into signing false confessions.

After Kim narrowly lost the 1971 election, then President Park Chung Hee rewrote the constitution and pushed through laws to maintain his grip on power and keep the increasingly authoritarian regime in place.

In 1973, South Korean intelligence agents kidnapped Kim from a Tokyo Hotel and took him to Seoul. For most of the next six years, he was either in jail or under house arrest.

After Park was assassinated last October, Kim emerged as a leading presidential candidate until Chun seized power, starting with a mutiny in December. He has since become president.

Chilean Dictator Under Fire

(San Francisco, Calif.) — Chile's voters were forced to vote recently on a constitution that extended thee term of the dictator, General Augusto Pinochet, until 1989.

Once a model of South American democracy, Chile's Congress was suspended in 1973.

The "election" came in the wake of a report issued by Amnesty International accusing the Pinochet government of torturing political prisoners.

The London-based human rights organization reported that since July 15, when the country's intelligence chief was assassinated, as many as 2,000 persons have been arrested and dozens tortured by the secret police.

"The military junta has imposed press censorship and outlawed labor unions and all political parties," said Palestro. "The country is already in a state of crisis with the unemployment rate at 20 per cent. (Prior to the fake election) 25,000 demonstrated against the government in Santiago. That was the first anti-government demonstration in seven years."

U.N. Supports Puerto Rican Independence

(New York, N.Y. — The United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization reaffirmed the right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence and urged the U.S. to "adopt all necessary measures for the full and unconditional transfer of all powers to the people of Puerto Rico" in a resolution recently approved.

The Committee also condemned the persecution, imprisonment and repressive measures to which organizations and persons struggling for independence are subjected, condemned the "maneuvers and provocations" of the U.S. Navy in the Puerto Rican island of Vieques and demanded that the U.S. terminate all military activities in Puerto Rico.

Third World, West Clash At U.N. Talks

(United Nations, N.Y.) - Third World hopes of obtaining billions of dollars in goods and services from the industrialized nations have been dealt a setback here with the failure to agree on ground rules for a much-anticipated global economic negotiation.

In three weeks of bargaining that began in late August, the United States, Britain and West Germany have held out against a plan designed to initiate the bargaining early next year.

The developing countries want a United Nations-like body to have the final say over any deals. The United States and its allies feared this could mean that arrangements made by organizations such as the International Monetary Fund could be overturned in New York.

The lack of accord at the special session of the General Assembly came as a surprise to the delegates here. There is a skepticism over whether rich and poor nations will agree on the "massive transfer of resources" urged by the poor. But it had been widely expected that all nations could agree at least on an agenda and on procedures to govern the bargaining. The deadlock in the special session strengthens the view that little if anything will emerge from the global round of talks, the **New York Times** reports.

The diplomats say they will continue their efforts, perhaps during the Assembly's regular session, but this has not yet been decided. Diplomats agreed that there is now little prospect that the international negotiation can begin as scheduled January 12, 1981.

The poor countries are seeking a huge transfer of wealth through three principal devices: a big increase in foreign aid; cartels to push up the prices of raw materials sold by the developing world; and a slashing of trade barriers by the rich that keep out goods from the poor.

Delegates at the special session did agree on a set of targets, a "development strategy," that has no binding effect. This turned out to be a major triumph for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

A long section on energy is silent on the price and supply of oil, a major source of distress for both the Third World and industrialized nations. The failure to urge stable oil prices and output is expected to make the richer nations even less responsive to the demands of the Third World. The energy section urges rich countries to cut down on consumption and help the poor find energy sources of their own.

The development strategy also says that seven-tenths of one per cent of the West's annual output should be given as foreign aid. This would be three and one-half times the current U.S. contribution. It sets a yearly growth tgarget for the poor of 7 per cent in the 1980's, nearly 40 per cent more than the Third World achieved in the 1970's.

The real objective here was to write the rules that would govern the bargaining, but the diplomats could not agree. An example repeatedly cited involved the International Monetary Fund. The poor nations want the fund to become another source of aid, distributing so-called special drawing rights for development (SDR). SDR's are a form of international money used by nations



Sub-Saharan Africa, where poverty is critical.

to settle debts with one another.

The industrial nations have steadfastly opposed turning the IMF into what it fears would become a printing press. The fund is dominated by the U.S. and other rich countries, and they could block change if bargaining is limited to the IMF's executive board. That is precisely why the poor want a central body, like the Assembly, to have the authority to rewrite deals made in the monetary fund.

The proposal rejected by the United States and its allies is ambiguous on the critical point. It says that the central body or conference shall conduct bargaining, will "establish objectives and provide guidance" but leave "detailed" negotiations to "specialized forums" like the IMF.

The severity of the crisis faced by the special U.N. session was starkly laid out in the World Bank's annual World Development Report issued on the eve of the meeting. The report focuses on the appalling situation in the low-income countries, especially those in Africa south of the Sahara.

After six years of almost fruitless negotiations with the Northern capitalist countries—"those who hold the steering wheel of the world economy," as the Yugoslav delegate put it—the developing countries of the South want to get on with the New International Economic Order (NIEO). They have come close to now-or-never urgency, the **Guardian** reports.

NIEO, which aims at a fairer distribution of the world's wealth, was adopted as a goal by the U.N. General Assembly in 1974. But the industrialized North, led by the U.S., has consistently balked at developing a program to implement redistribution. (The "centrally planned economies," such as the Soviet bloc countries and China, have not been involved in the negotiations.)

On opening day of the meeting, Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao of India spoke for the developing countries, calling for a massive transfer of resources from the North to the South on "a predictable, long-term and assured basis."

From U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie's remarks to the delegates that day, it is clear that Washington, at least, still has no intention of making any such commitment. Instead, Muskie continued the Carter administration's practice of scapegoating OPEC, blaming it for the economic plight of the world and for not aiding developing countries.

The World Bank report offers gloom laced with disaster. The situation is far more serious than the 1974-75 slump.

Low-income countries—those 38 nations with less than $360 of annual output per person—have been able to show virtually no improvement in individual incomes in the past decade. And those meager incomes seem likely to dwindle in the coming decade, especially in Africa south of the Sahara.

Of the 1.3 billion people in the low-income countries, some 600 million are illiterate adults. One-third of the children, including half the girls, of primary-school age do not go to school. The people live 24 years less than those in the North.

And the bank report makes it clear that all the developing countries, low and middle-income, are in the grip of the industrialized world and that the hold on the low-income group will tighten, if the situation develops as the bank foresees.

"The developing countries face formidable obstacles on the way to rapid growth—many of which they will have to overcome themselves," the report states. "But through their policies on trade, aid and other capital flows, the industrialized countries and the capital-surplus oil exporters have a striking impact on how much the developing countries can accomplish."

For example, the report says that growth rates and trade policies of the industrialized countries "largely determine how much the developing countries can export." The North usually takes some 65 per cent of the South's exports.

Because the Northern economies are in a recession, they will this year, for instance, buy some $6 billion less raw materials and other Southern goods than usual. And capitalist countries for several years have been busy defending their own markets by building barriers against Third World manufacturers.

The trade situation is particularly troubling, the bank finds, because there is not developed-country recovery in sight. Indeed, the bank goes so far as to say that "there are question marks over...the growth potential" of the industrial countries, an admission that the North-based system is in serious trouble.

For the next five years, the bank says, exports from sub-Saharan African countries "could" grow more slowly than in the 1970s, "underlining their need for foreign assistance to maintain their import capacity." "Foreign assistance" in this context dissolves into "foreign dependence."

Meanwhile, worldwide unemployment will continue to worsen over the next 15 years as the number of people seeking jobs grows, the Environmental Fund has predicted.

The fund predicted that between 1965 and 1995 the world labor pool will have increased by 931.3 million people.

"What is alarming besides the general increase in the labor force, is that the largest increases occur in regions that already are suffering from extremely serious employment problems," noted Dr. Garrett Hardin of the fund, an organization that seeks to focus attention on population growth as part of worldwide social problems.

The labor force projections for 1995 are not conjectural, Hardin said, since the people who will be seeking to enter the labor force in that year have already been born.

"As we review the gloomy economic news of 1980, we cannot help but be concerned with the forecasts. We are painfully aware of the effects of unemployment on the U.S. economy. If we look beyond our borders, the problem is enormous," Hardin said.

Over the next 15 years—to1995—he predicted that the gap will widen between the developed and the developing countries with respect to the number of people entering the labor force.

A pattern of rural-to-urban emigration has emerged in developing nations, he said, flooding cities with people seeking work, but too rarely finding it.

It is those developing nations that are experiencing some of the world's largest population growth at the same time. And, even though total population growth has slowed or even stopped in some developed countries, larger numbers of people will still be entering the labor force because of their already enlarged base population.

"No country will be immune from the effect of this increase in the labor pool and no economic system can afford to disregard it. The cause of the labor problem is population growth—the fundamental challenge of this century," Hardin said.□

Widespread Support For Huey's Appeal

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pellant with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

"In 1974, the district attorney charged appellant with assault with a weapon specifically alleged to be a revolver. A co-defendant was also charged. The co-defendant was additionally charged with [possession of a concealable firearm] and a separately charged prior conviction. The district attorney made no such allegations as to any prior conviction of appellant. Indeed, even in the instant case, the district attorney did not allege the 1964 conviction in the original complain filed in 1974.

"It was not until 1977 that the district attorney belatedly changed his mind about the constitutionality of the 1964 conviction and determined to imprison appellant for conduct occurring in 1974 and thought permissible by the district attorney himself in 1974. Thus, in 1977 the district attorney amended the complaint to allege the prior conviction. . . .

"In 1974, the time at which appellant is alleged to have possessed these two guns in his home, he was not a convicted felon and *no one* believed the contrary. The superior court, district attorney, defense attorney, registrar of voters, and superintendent of Vacaville all concurred in the fact that Huey Newton was not a felon. Mr. Newton himself had absolutely no reason to question this fact. He honestly and with the utmost reason believed that he was not a felon.

"The trial court refused judicial notice of the 1971 court records primarily on the ground that they were irrelevant. Since the court records were the basis and essence of appellant's attempts to show an honest and reasonable belief that he was not a felon, this ruling foreclosed further evidence of this crucial defense.

"The Court of Appeal held that as a matter of fact appellant was a felon and that no showing of mistake or lack of knowledge of that status, no matter how reasonable or persuasive, is a defense in this case. These rulings were patently and outrageously unfair. . . .

"A defendant's status as a person who has been convicted of a felony is a fact which must be proved for the offense defined by law. Because felon status is an element of [possession of a concealable firearm] and must be proved to the jury along with all other factual matters, a mistake as to felon status is more appropriately treated as a mistake of fact rather than of law.

"Appellant in the instant case did not know that he was a felon. Felon status is a fact and appellant was mistaken as to that fact. Whether the source of his mistake derived from some collateral legal or factual matter, his mistake itself was as to the existence of a fact required for conviction.

"In the course of this endlessly repetitive litigation, there is a likelihood of inconsistent judgments as occurred in the instant case. Rulings on the constitutionality of prior convictions demand consistency because people seek to adjust their behavior to those rulings. Thus one whose felony is unconstitutional may vote, visit prisoners, own a weapon, seek employment in certain licensed professions and exercise other incidents of non-felon status.

"A later inconsistent decision which permits the conviction and imprisonment of a person for relying on the earlier decision severely compromises the integrity of the judicial system, not only in the eyes of the public but in fact....

"California courts have held for over 15 years in a consistant line of cases that a prior felony unconstitutional conviction under the Sixth Amendment cannot be used for any purpose in any subsequent proceeding....

"Through the rejection of res judicata [the case has been decided], the lower courts in this case force appellant to submit to a relitigation and a contradictory determination of the validity of his 1964 conviction. Through the refusal to take judicial notice, the lower courts hold that appellant himself must suffer the burden of this judicial inconsistency, no matter how reasonable and justified was appellant's reliance on the earlier decision.

"These rulings smack more of harassment than of the administration of justice. They create traps for the unwary or unpopular rather than defining true crimes."☐

Amnesty International Urges San Quentin Six Retrial

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"On the question of the private conversations between juror Fagan and the trial judge suggesting her possible bias against Black Panthers, I should point out that Amnesty International cannot purport to comment on the intricacies of California's precedent in this area. Indeed, there is no international principle demanding a jury trial or, where jury trials occur, any particular composition or majority.

"What international standards do require, however, is that there be no discrimination in the procedures used between defendants of varying political racial or other backgrounds. They require national law to be applied evenly. Thus, in a jurisdiction where potential jurors are required to make certain declarations concerning their attitude toward the case, it is difficult to appreciate the fairness of a judicial decision to ignore significant discrepancies between what juror Fagan publicly stated prior to trial concerning her view of the Black Panther Party and what she privately revealed during trial proceedings. There is an inclination to wonder whether such a decision is not abnormal rather than normal practice.

"The same reasoning applies to the failure of the trial judge to include Mr. Spain and his counsel in his discussions with juror Fagan, despite Mr. Spain's conceded right to be present with counsel at all stages of his trial. The dismissal of these irregularities as harmless beyond a reasonable doubt is especially difficult to comprehend when Mr. Spain, the only Black Panther on trial, was the only defendent convicted of the pivotal charges of conspiracy and murder.

"Amnesty International also wishes to express concern at the decision of the Court of Appeal's majority not to publish a decision in which interest extends to a level and other community well beyond the jurisdiction of California.

"In the light of these concerns, Amnesty International respectfully urges the Supreme Court of California to hear the appeal of Johnny Larry Spain and to order a retrial, since nothing short of such an order can hope to alleviate the concern of international public opinion about this case."

The petition to the state Supreme Court asking that it reverse the Court of Appeal's ruling and grant Johnny a new trial, states in part:

"This case poses a basic challenge to this court and the system of justice it is charged with supervising. For if a legal system is in any sense to be measured by its treatment of its most controversial and notorious cases, then the Court of Appeal opinion in this case cannot be permitted to stand. To one who is familiar with the record and the law in this area there can be no question but that a reversal of appellant's conviction was required.

"The question inevitably arises, then, as to why the Court of Appeal failed to reverse. Both appellant and an important segment of the international legal and political community are convinced that the answer does not lie in the uniform application of neutral legal principles. For appellant has been victimized by the notoriety of his case and the controversy of his cause. When he is asked to pay that price we all suffer.

"This matter should be heard both because of the importance of the legal questions it presents and because it is one of those rare cases that speaks to the very integrity of our judicial system."

Johnny was recently held in isolation for over two weeks at California Medical Facility (CMF) in Vacaville, where he is imprisoned. In August, a White guard was accidentally killed while attempting to break up a fight between two Black inmates, one of whom died from stab wounds. Shortly after the incident, Johnny was taken from his dormitory on the prison's mainline and placed in CMF's lock-up unit. No formal charges were ever made against him, and prison officials told him he was not under suspicion for the incident.

Johnny charged that he was illegally confined in isolation because of his membership in the Black Panther Party and his involvement in the San Quentin 6 case.☐

One Million Defy The Draft

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activist experience. Small post offices in areas which never saw anti-draft or anti-war activities during the Vietnam war era saw much leafleting.

Another sign that registration figures were much less than hoped for by Selective Service was that the main post office in Washington, D.C., ceased supplying registration statistics after the first three days of the sign-up period. According to a WACARD activist, a post office official conceded he was ordered to stop releasing the figures because they were embarrassingly low.

If 10 per cent of the nation's four million 19- and 20-year-old men failed to register for the draft this summer, roughly 400,000 young men would have been turned into potential federal felons subject to maximum penalties of a five-year prison term and/or a $10,000 fine.

The SSS has started a computerized system of dossiers on all people now or ever required to register. This is being done, according to American Civil Liberties Union counsel David Landau, by consolidating ("data matching") young people's names, addresses and Social Security numbers from all available computerized lists: motor vehicle license records, high-school graduation records, college registration lists and many others. SSS will then match this list of potential registrants against those actually registered, thereby getting the names of those who could be prosecuted as lawbreakers.

But if all this information can be obtained by computerized registration, why, one might ask, did Carter tell people to register in person at post offices?

There are many parts to the answer. Carter wanted some "massive" symbolic action—along with military escalation, the wheat embargo and the Olympic boycott—as a dramatic response to the Soviet action in Afghanistan, while postponing until 1981 any concerted drive for peacetime examination, classification and actual conscription. Faceless registration, however, requires low visibility at a time when many conservatives and reactionaries, as well as liberals and radicals, are increasingly worried about the government's invasion of personal privacy, **The Nation** reports.

Above all, many of the laws protecting privacy have loopholes, of which public agencies pursuing wrongdoers can avail themselves. Now that Carter's draft registration has created a massive number of alleged lawbreakers, these loopholes can be exploited and, with clever interpretations or amendments, widened to include even Social Security and Internal Revenue Service files.

The Justice Department has no sound basis on which to prosecute nonregistrants. Under past U.S. Supreme Court decisions, any nonregistrant has a good defense if he can demonstrate that he sincerely believed draft registration to be unconstitutional.

And until the Supreme Court rules otherwise, a nonregistrant can start by referring to the unanimous decision of the U.S. District Court in July that the Selective Service Act "unconstitutionally discriminates between males and females." On the following day Justice William Brennan held up the enforcement of the District Court's decision until the Supreme Court could act. In so doing, Brennan yielded to the government's almost hysterical claim that immediate registration was needed to support Carter's act of "independent foreign policy significance." But he did not, and could not have legally tried to, reverse the District Court's ruling of unconstitutionality.

Furthermore, there are many other grounds for people to believe in the unconstitutionality of draft registration and the peacetime conscription of which, in Justice Brennan's words, it is "a predicate" (meaning foundation). Even if women were included, it would discriminate against young people in a way that "does not serve important governmental objectives." Above all, even is sexist and agist discriminations were eliminated, it would still violate Fourth Amendment protections of personal privacy. Fifth Amendment guarantees of equal protection and due process and Thirteenth Amendment protections against involuntary servitude.

The National Anti-Draft Network will hold an open public meeting in San Francisco on September 24 to plan a march and other activities against draft registration. The meeting is free and will be held at the Women's Building, located at 3543 - 18th Street at 7 p.m. For more information call: (415) 647-2929.□

Africa Civilization

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In a related development, University of Massachusetts researchers have found evidence in bones of an ancient Sudanese people that shows they were getting large doses of the antibiotic tetracycline about 14 centuries ago.

University officials and the National Science Foundation, which sponsored the research, recently announced the findings by an anthropology teacher and three graduate students.

Tetracycline, an antibiotic used often since the 1950's, probably grew naturally from mold-like bacteria called streptomycetes in the mud grain bins where wheat, barley and millet were stored by the ancient people, the researchers said.

The bones were taken from a cemetery of the Sudanese Nubian population that lived on the flood plains of the Nile from about 350 to 550 years after the death of Jesus Christ.

The researchers are George J. Armelagos of the University of Massachusetts Anthropology Department and graduate students Everett J. Bassett, Margaret S. Keith and Debra Martin. Antonio R. Villaneuva of Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit was also involved.

Armelagos called the discovery one of the most important of the decade in skeletal biology. He said it also will have an impact in several other research areas, particularly in how resistance to antibiotics developed and how the presence of antibiotics may have affected the health of ancient people.

The initial discovery of the tetracycline was made by Martin, who detected the characteristic fluorescent signal during a chance use of an ultraviolet fluorescence microscope while working at Henry Ford Hospital.

The sample glowed with the distinct yellow-green signal of tetracycline, identical to the signal that identifies the antibiotic in modern bones.

There is no direct evidence the tetracycline was taken therapeutically, Keith said. But she theorized the population may have made the connection between health and tetracycline.□

Black Juror

Continued from Page 4

"We were not given appropriate background information on these officers," Elder continued. "For instance, we were not old that two days before the shooting of Cornelius Tatum, Officer [Norman] Nelson killed a man. One week previous, he killed another. One year ago, Officer Nelson handcuffed and raped a young girl.

"These are not just random accusations, they are documented facts. And what kind of care did these officers take? They fire 11 shots at a man without warning, a man who was working at his job. At least one of the bullets came inches away from striking a gas tank. What if they had struck it? He would not have just wiped out one man, but an entire block! One whole block!"

Awareness

After the Tatum trial, awareness of the need for a CPRB intensified throughout Los Angeles. As the deadline for the 116,000 necessary legal signatures to put the CPRB on the ballot approaches (campaign organizers currently claim over 90,000 signatures) the Police Protective League has launched a $1 million dollar campaign to defeat it. "We don't have a million dollars," said organizer Michael Zinzun. "We have only the power of the people, and that has them scared."

In an unusual move, the jury in the trial of three Los Angeles police officers charged with the shooting of Tatum, held its own press conference after rendering its verdicts.

They also issued a statement signed by all jurors expressing their "concerned dismay with the actions of the officers."

The statement read in part, "We do not believe that, in the actions related to the shooting of Tatum, the police conducted themselves with due concern for the lives and welfare of the persons who could have been seriously injured...Two women in a vehicle, almost in the line of fire, were disregarded by the officers.

"We believe the LAPD should view with grave concern the actions of these officers. If the actions of these experienced officers are examples of the training they receive, then all citizens should be concerned."□



Blacks Protest Nationwide Cover-up of Police Murders

Continued from Page 4

In Jackson, Mississippi, a pregnant Black woman was murdered by a White policeman in late August.

Officer Gary King said he shot Dorothy Brown after she aimed a pistol at him.

However, Lewis Armstrong, a member of the Jackson NAACP, said that at least 20 of Brown's neighbors reported that King's story was not true and that the victim did not threaten the officer in any way.

In Mathews, Virginia, Michael Johnson was fatally shot by a deputy sheriff in August. A demonstration by some 300 Blacks following the shooting protested the incident as cold-blooded murder.

In Longmont, Colorado, a White policeman recently shot and killed two unarmed Hispanic men.

The August shootings prompted widespread protests and charges of longstanding police mistreatment of Hispanics in Longmont.

The city, 30 miles north of Denver, has a population of 45,000, about 18 per cent of which are Mexican-Americans. The 48-member police department has only one Hispanic.

In Los Angeles, officer Steven Prescott, claiming that Willie Lee Peterson had wielded a pipe as if it was a gun, shot and killed the 37-year-old man in late September.

Protesting the murders of 10 Black men by Oakland police from January 1979 to mid-1980, the newly formed Coalition Against Police Brutality held a march and rally in East Oakland in late September.

The coalition is composed of the Charles Briscoe Committee for Justice, the National Anti-Racist Organizing Committee, National Lawyers Guild, Communist Party, USA (Marxist-Leninist), Oakland Study Center, Trade Union Action League of San Jose, California, and the Black Panther Party.□

Oakland Community School Begins 10th Year









Author-poet MAYA ANGELOU (right) talks to Group E language class.







